

Mint of the United States at Philadelphia, Pa.,

ASSAY DEPARTMENT,

November 16th, 1889.

A number of experiments were made in this office some years since to ascertain the depreciation in value of Gold and Silver coin by abrasion:

We found that a lot of double eagles whose average age was 6 years, showed an annual loss of 11.3 cents on \$1000.-

Eagles whose average age was 11 years 21.5 cents on \$1000.- Half Eagles average age 12 years

28.2 cents on \$1000.- Quarter eagles average age 10 years 37.6 cents on \$1000.-

Of course the weight after washing, was the weight taken, as it indicates the real loss by wear, by comparison with the lawful weight of new & clean coins.

These experiments were made previous to the

Mint of the United States at Philadelphia, Pa.,

ASSAY DEPARTMENT,

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war, when Gold was largely in circulation there being no United States notes.

From experiments just lately made, we have found that a lot of half eagles whose ages were seven & nine years, showed an annual loss of 21 cents on \$1000.—

Jacob B. Eckfeldt
Assayer

U. S. Treasury Department.

Guth

<i>Trinnes</i>	1392	—	,916 $\frac{2}{3}$
"	1834	—	,899.225
"	1837	—	900

Silva

"	1992	—	882,4
"	1837	—	900.

NARA RG104, Entry 1, Box 160

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[Enclosed note:]

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Gold

Fineness	1792	.916 2/3
“	1834	.899.225
“	1837	.900

Silver

“	1792	892.4
“	1837	900.